

in England, yet rarely" (p. 1). *Machaon* does not appear at all in the first extensive colour-plate work on British entomology, Eleazar Albin's *A natural history of English insects* (London, 1720). The omission is strange, as Albin was acquainted with the early entomologists who knew *machaon*, and he was certainly familiar with the literature. Benjamin Wilkes, in the set of plates first published in 1742 and usually called the "Twelve new designs of English butterflies," first named *machaon* as "*The Swallow-tail Butterfly*" in print, and we must suppose that after several reigns William's charisma had faded. In Wilkes' later publication, *The English moths and butterflies* (London, [1747 or 48?-49]) he gave evidence of the already diminishing range of *machaon*. Although Petiver could take the butterfly in London forty years before, Wilkes now had to go as far as "the Meadows and Clover Fields about *Cookham*, near *Westram*, in Kent," where with reasonable diligence the butterfly could be captured "without much Difficulty." *Machaon* had already been subjected to the rapid restriction of distribution which can be traced so dramatically in the records of the later eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

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A REPORT OF THE BLACK-VEINED WHITE (*APORIA CRATAEGI* L.) NEAR EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX IN 1980. — Mrs. K. Platt (*Country Life*, 16.x.1980, **108** (4339): 1350; and *in litt.*) states that she and her husband saw three or four of this butterfly on the 15th July 1980, as they were walking across the downs from Eastbourne to Beachy Head. She writes me that the butterflies were at rest on Meadow Sweet in an open piece of ground by the low path as one approaches the Head, and that they watched them closely for about 15 minutes.

During a conversation which I had with Mrs. Platt, she remarked that the butterflies were resting with their wings open, that they were very attractive and that there was a lot of black in the markings. I suggested to her that it was perhaps more likely they were Marbled Whites (*Melanargia galatea* L.), upon which she agreed that they might have been that. The butterflies were not photographed, and no specimen was taken. — J. M. CHALMERS-HUNT.